

From: Steve Golowich
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 11:37pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Antitrust Division:

Under the Tunney Act, I would like to comment on the proposed final judgment (PFJ) in United States v. Microsoft.

The PFJ is not in the public interest. Of the many reasons why this is so, I would like to emphasize the fact that the PFJ does too little to erode the Applications Barrier to Entry. In particular, the PFJ does nothing to prevent Microsoft's use of undocumented proprietary file formats as barriers to entry in various markets. In my own daily work, I often find it impossible to avoid using Microsoft products to read files created by Microsoft Office and sent to me by others. This situation must be remedied by forcing Microsoft to publish all of their proprietary file formats, and more generally, any proprietary protocols necessary to inter-operate with Microsoft products. This issue will grow in importance with Microsoft's attempt to dominate the internet with their .NET initiative.

Sincerely,

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